

PROCEEDINGS  
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THE COLLARED PECCARIES OF MIDDLE AMERICA

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The collared peccaries of Central America occupy the lowlands from sea to sea and ascend in places on the tropical or subtropical slopes of mountains to over 6,000 feet altitude. In southern Mexico, however, this general transcontinental range is split by the southward, wedgelike extension of the central highlands and continues thence northward in diverging branches along the eastern and western seaward slopes to extreme northern limits in southern Texas and southern Arizona, where the Lower Austral Life Zone is invaded.

Comparison of specimens from numerous localities indicates that all the continental Middle American forms of the genus are closely allied. Each differs from the others in varying combinations of size, color, and rather slight cranial details. The northern races, inhabiting more arid, partially open regions, are generally pale in color, with distinct black dorsal stripes and heavy dentition. Those inhabiting the heavily forested regions from southern Mexico to Panama are, on the other hand, characterized by more uniformly dark colors and somewhat weaker dentition. General agreement in important characters thus justifies the conclusion that all probably intergrade and may properly be regarded as subspecies of *Pecari angulatus*, the relationship of which to South American species remains to be determined. *Pecari nanus*, an insular form of this group, exhibits so wide a departure, especially in size, from the continental members of the genus that it must be accorded specific distinction.

The collared peccaries of Middle America, with two new subspecies described beyond will, therefore, stand as follows:

<i>Pecari angulatus angulatus</i> (Cope).....	Guadalupe River, Texas.
<i>Pecari angulatus sonoriensis</i> (Mearns).....	San Bernardino River (near monument No. 77, Mexican boundary line), Sonora, Mexico.
<i>Pecari angulatus humeralis</i> (Merriam).....	Armeria, Colima, Mexico.
<i>Pecari angulatus crassus</i> (Merriam).....	Metlatoyuca, Puebla, Mexico.
<i>Pecari angulatus yucatanensis</i> (Merriam).....	Tunkas, Yucatan, Mexico.
<i>Pecari angulatus crusnigrum</i> (Bangs).....	Boquete, Chiriqui, Pana- ma.
<i>Pecari angulatus bangsi</i> Goldman.....	Boca de Cupe, eastern Panama.
<i>Pecari angulatus nelsoni</i> , subsp. nov.....	Huehuetan, Chiapas, Mexico.
<i>Pecari angulatus nigrescens</i> , subsp. nov.....	Chamelicon, Honduras.
<i>Pecari nanus</i> (Merriam).....	Cosumel Island, Yucatan, Mexico.

## DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW FORMS.

*Pecari angulatus nelsoni*, subsp. nov.

## NELSON'S COLLARED PECCARY.

*Type* from Huehuetan (altitude 500 feet), Chiapas, Mexico. No. 77,865, ♂ adult, skin and skull, U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey collection), collected by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman, February 24, 1896. Original number, 9381.

*Distribution*.—Forests of southern Chiapas, Mexico, and doubtless adjoining parts of Guatemala.

*General characters*.—A large dark form without distinct dorsal stripe. Somewhat similar to *Pecari angulatus crusnigrum* of Panama in color, but less tawny, and skull relatively narrower, more elongated. Similar in general to *P. a. humeralis*, but color darker, more tawny, and cranial characters distinctive. Shoulder stripe, or collar, rather well developed as a light tawny band.

*Color*.—Type: General body color coarsely mixed, or grizzled, black and light tawny, the latter element varying to rich ochraceous buffy along flanks, becoming more grayish along median line of back; rump bristles with very long black tips obscuring the lighter under color; head more finely grizzled black and light tawny; cheeks ochraceous buffy; upper side of muzzle blackish; feet black. In a topotype the lighter element in the pelage inclines to ochraceous buffy, the general tone less tawny than in the type.

*Skull*.—Similar in general to that of *P. a. crusnigrum*, but relatively longer and narrower; frontal region and braincase narrower; dentition similar. Compared with that of *P. a. humeralis* the skull is relatively longer and narrower, the rostrum more elongated; postorbital processes less prominent; diastema longer; molariform toothrows narrower.

*Measurements.* Type: Total length, 970; hind foot, 192. An adult female topotype: 1020; 224. *Skull* (type): Greatest length (lateral expansion of lambdoid crest to front of incisors), 250; condylobasal length, 204.5; zygomatic breadth, 103.2; interorbital breadth, 49.9; breadth across postorbital processes, 66.2; maxillary toothrow, 64.4.

*Remarks.*—In general characters *P. a. nelsoni* somewhat approaches *P. a. humeralis*, specimens of which are now available from various localities representing a rather wide range along the western slope of Mexico. It differs notably, however, in darker coloration, with the absence of a distinct dorsal stripe and in this respect more nearly resembles *P. a. crusnigrum*. A female topotype is larger, and the lighter element in the pelage is less tawny, or rusty reddish than in the type.

*Specimens examined.*—Two, from the type locality.

***Pecari angulatus nigrescens*, subsp. nov.**

HONDURAS COLLARED PECCARY.

*Type* from Chamelicon, Honduras. No. 148,735, ♀ adult, skin and skull, U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey collection), collected by H. S. Reed, March 10, 1901. X catalogue number 6416.

*Distribution.*—Northwestern Honduras to northern Guatemala and eastern Quintana Roo.

*General characters.*—A medium-sized dark form without distinct dorsal stripe. Similar to *Pecari angulatus yucatanensis*, but larger and general color uniformly much darker; cranial characters differing in detail. In general color somewhat resembling *P. a. nelsoni*, but lighter under tone more grayish; skull smaller, shorter, and relatively broader, with molari-form toothrows decidedly shorter. Similar in general to *P. a. crusnigrum*, but lighter element in pelage buffy or grayish instead of tawny, and dentition lighter.

*Color.*—Type: Upper and under parts in general very light ochraceous or pinkish buffy, varying to grayish on lower part of back, coarsely mixed or heavily overlaid with black; chin and median line of under parts blackish; muzzle above, and feet black. Shoulder stripes light buffy, but rather narrow and indistinct.

*Measurements.*—Type: Total length, 890; hind foot, 180. *Skull*: Greatest length, 238.5; condylobasal length, 199; zygomatic breadth, 99.8; interorbital breadth, 56.1; breadth across postorbital processes, 72.7; maxillary toothrow, 58.2.

*Remarks.*—This dark subspecies is apparently most closely allied to *P. a. yucatanensis*, but is readily distinguished by the decidedly darker color due to the more uniform distribution of hairs with long black tips. A specimen from the semi-humid forest at La Vega, eastern Quintana Roo shows gradation toward the paler *yucatanensis* which inhabits the arid sections of Yucatan.

*Specimens examined.*—Total number, 6, from localities as follows:

Honduras: Chamelicon (type locality), 2.

Guatemala: Peten, 3.

Quintana Roo: La Vega, 1.